

2004

One Million Volumes and Counting

Rod Library. University of Northern Iowa.

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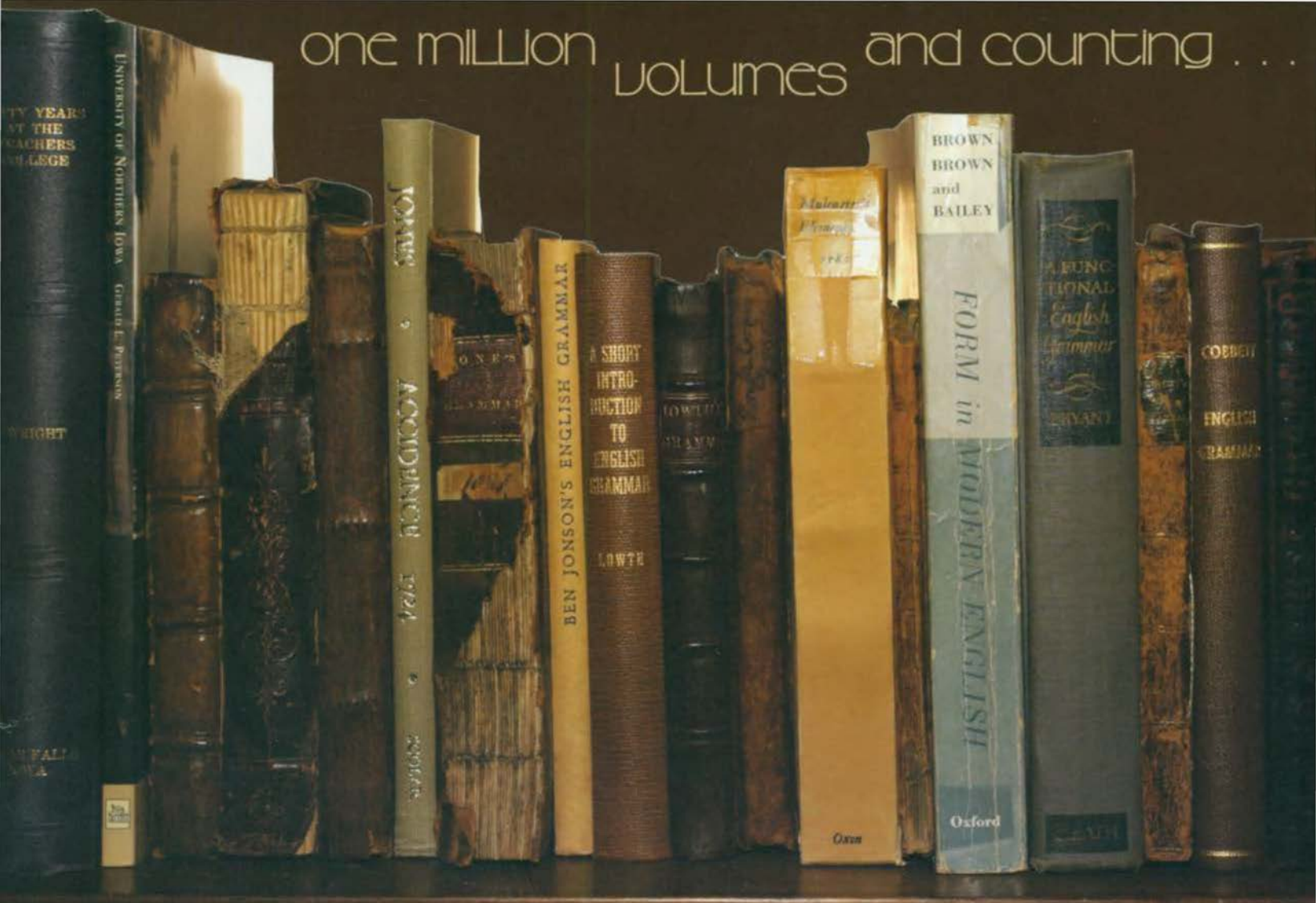
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one million and counting . . .
volumes



one million volumes and counting ...

40th anniversary &

rod Library

millionth volume

rod Library celebrates 40 years

Friday, October 1, 2004



3 p.m.



4th floor, Rod Library



Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Robert D. Koob

President, University of Northern Iowa

Remarks

Catherine Rod

Librarian, Grinnell College

Daughter of Mr. Donald O. Rod

Senator Charles Grassley

U. S. Senator

Nancy Price

Author

Tours and reception following the ceremony

Music provided by

Esprit du Vent Quintet, UNI School of Music:

Eliza Bangert, flute

Sarah Gilpin, clarinet

Audrey Anderson, oboe

Leslie Twite, horn

Cassidy Olson, bassoon

Nancy Price will be available to sell and autograph copies of her latest novel *No One Knows* following the ceremony.

history of rod Library



The Rod Library has been an integral part of the university for 40 years. During that time its collection has grown from 210,000 to 1 million volumes. The Library was constructed in three separate phases, beginning in 1962 and finishing the final phase in 1995. The first section included the east portion of the first, second, and third floors and was occupied in September 1964. In January 1975, the west portion of those same floors was occupied. The fourth floor addition was completed in 1995.

This phased construction project moved UNI's library collection from poorly-ventilated, overcrowded facilities in Seerley Hall to an air-conditioned, spacious building, which, following completion of Phase 3 in 1995, now encompasses 238,000 square feet with shelving for 1,100,000 volumes and seating for 2,165 people.



mr. donald o. rod

Rod Library was named to honor Donald Olaf Rod, who served as director of the UNI Library from 1953 through 1986. Mr. Rod was trained in architecture as well as library science, and was instrumental in the development and design of the library and its program of services. In 1953, when he arrived on campus, the library had an operating budget of \$70,000, including a book budget of \$15,000. The book collection numbered 150,000 volumes. When he retired in 1986, the budget was \$2.5 million, with \$759,000 earmarked for books. The collection had reached 600,000 volumes.



Thank you to those who contributed to the Donald O. Rod Memorial. Those contributions made the purchase of Rod Library's millionth volume possible.

Author:

Wells, John G.

Title:

Wells' pocket hand-book of Iowa; past, present and prospective; comprising a concise delineation of the state, to which is prefixed pre-emption laws relating to the public lands, a copious synopsis of all U. S. land laws, and blank forms of documents, indispensable to settlers or their representatives; illustrated with a new railroad and township map.

Place and Date of Publication:

New York, 1857

This book, which includes a color map of Iowa, is rare, especially in the fine condition of our volume. Books like this, often called emigrant books, were popular in the middle nineteenth century when Midwest lands were opened for settlement. People who were considering a move to the Midwest bought books like these to find the best places to farm, start businesses, and raise families. The books were usually small, like our volume, in order to fit conveniently into a person's pocket.

millionth volume

Online resources:

For complete library history and photographs, see
<http://www.library.uni.edu/speccoll/libhist1.html>

For a history of the Rod Library building, see
<http://www.library.uni.edu/speccoll/bh/bhrod.html>

For more information about Mr. Rod, see
<http://www.library.uni.edu/speccoll/bio/biorod.html>

For a descriptive essay of the millionth volume, see
<http://www.library.uni.edu/speccoll/libmillionth.html>

twenty fun facts about rod Library

1 The Library has been housed in five buildings on campus: Central Hall (1876-1883); Old Gilchrist Hall (1883-1896); Old Administration Building (1896-1911); Seerley Hall (1911-1964); and Rod Library (1964-present). The first two buildings were destroyed by fires long after the Library had been moved from those locations. The third building was razed.

2 The first location of the Library, in Central Hall, served as a home for orphans of the Civil War.

3 The Library has had nine heads: Anna Baker (1894-1907); Ellen Biscoe (1907-1910); Mary Dunham (1911-1913); Anne Stuart Duncan (1913-1943); Marybelle McClelland (1943-1953); Donald O. Rod (1953-1986); Barbara Jones (1986-1988); Herbert D. Safford (1989-2000); Marilyn Mercado (2000-present). Several others served on interim bases.

4 During his administration as Principal of the Normal School, from 1876 through 1886, James Cleland Gilchrist made his extensive private book collection available to students.

5 Students ran the Library from 1876 through 1894. The first head of the Library, Anna Baker, had no professional training in Library Science; the first professionally trained librarian, Cataloguer Clara Drenning, joined the staff in 1900.

6 What would eventually become the Youth Collection was organized in 1897.

7 Early plans for the first building devoted solely to library services called for an octagonal structure to be located approximately where the President's House now stands.

8

9

The Reading Room was well-known as a place to socialize until the Commons opened in 1933.

10

The Library bookstacks were closed to students until February 14, 1944. Patrons submitted requests for books, which were then retrieved from the bookstacks by library employees.

11

The Library first instituted an exit security system in 1959 with the installation of a turnstile.

12

The Library converted its collection from the Dewey Decimal Classification system to the Library of Congress Classification system in a multi-year project beginning in 1967.

13

The Library's public card catalogue was initially maintained in two parts: one part contained author and title entries; the other part contained subject entries. These parts were united in a single file in 1971.

14

The Library acquired volume number 500,000 in 1979 and volume number 1,000,000 in 2004.

15

An electronic security system was installed in 1983.

16

UNISTAR was named in a contest by student C. J. Hines; it was dedicated on November 17, 1989. UNISTAR is the acronym for the University of Northern Iowa System to Access Resources.

17

The public card catalogue ended its active use in 1992.

18

The Library's bound periodicals were formerly arranged alphabetically by title; the current periodicals were arranged into about forty broad subject areas.

19

The Library began to offer full text databases in 1993.

20

The Library made its home page public in May 1995.



thank you

Thank you to current Library employees, without whom our services would not be possible.
Their collective service to Rod Library totals more than 759 years.

Barbara Allen
Alan Asher
Cindy Bancroft
Susan Basye
Ken Bauer
Linda Berneking
Gail Briddle
Tim Bryant
Jerry Caswell
Cynthia Coulter
Paula Coulthard

Paulette Courtney
MaeLynne Dean
David Gilme
Nancy Hasenwinkel
Georgia Henry
David Hoing
Edye Johnson
Julie Johnson
Brenda Jordan
Tom Kessler
Cindy Kruckeberg

Barbara Kuhlman
Lucille Lettow
Jeanne Little
Curlie Loggins
Joan Loslo
Becky Lutkenhaus
Stan Lyle
Joy Lynn
Bill Maravetz
Stephanie Marra
Jerilyn Marshall

Katherine Martin
Linda McLaury
Rosemary Meany
Marilyn Mercado
Susan Moore
Lola Morris
Chris Neuhaus
Ellen Neuhaus
Susan Olive
Gerald Peterson
Herb Safford

Kent Snowden
Diane Stockdale
Lila Wagner
Sandra Warner
Barbara Weeg
Keith Welch
Sandra Wilkens
Jackie Williams
Julie Williamson
Mary Wilson
John Wynstra



University of
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